Date: November 10, 2008

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens 570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100 Los Angeles, California 90065 (323) 221-8944

Memorandum

To: The Conservancy

The Advisory Committee

From

Joseph 7. Edmiston, FAICP, ASLA (Hon.), Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item 11: Consideration of resolution authorizing a Proposition 84 grant to the City of Glendale to fund a planning study for youth-oriented, overnight campground in the City of Glendale.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Conservancy authorize a Proposition 84 grant to the City of Glendale to fund a planning study for youth-oriented campground in the City of Glendale.

<u>Legislative Authority</u>: Public Resources Code Section 33204(c) provides that the Conservancy may award grants to cities for development of essential public facilities; Public Resources Code Sections 33204.2(a) and 33204.27(a) provide that the Conservancy may award grants to local agencies to carry out improvements or educational interpretation programs that directly relate to a project that the Conservancy is otherwise authorized to undertake pursuant to Division 23; Public Resources Code Section 75050(g)(2).

<u>Background</u>: The City of Glendale has submitted a grant application for a planning study to determine the feasibility of a youth-oriented, overnight campground in the Verdugo Mountains, San Rafael Hills, or Deukmejian Wilderness Park in the City of Glendale. The City has asked the Conservancy for a grant in the amount of \$50,000 from the Conservancy's 08/09 Proposition 84 appropriation, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 75050(g)(2). The attached application describes the planning study in greater detail.

Public Resources Code Section 75050(g)(2) allocated the sum of \$36,000,000 to the Conservancy for implementation of watershed protection activities throughout the Upper Los Angeles River pursuant to Section 79508 of the Water Code. The subject study areas are within the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed. Section 79508 provides that watershed protection activities shall be consistent with the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watershed and Open Space Plan (Common Ground). The proposed campground would provide opportunities to implement key strategies found in Common Ground including public education, educating children who live in the watershed, and interpretive opportunities.

The term "protection" found in Section 75050(g)(2) is defined as including both development and interpretation. The campground planning study includes potential development of a

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campground. The camping facility when constructed would further interpretation of the watershed's natural resources.